

## United States Catholic China Bureau

# China Church Quarterly

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### Editor's Note:

China continues to move away from its militantly atheist and radically leftist years of the Cultural Revolution. After the death of Mao and the overthrow of the Gang of Four, Deng Xiaoping's Reform and Open Door policy gave China the "Well-off Society" (xiao-kang shehui) policy and the current tolerance of religion policy.

More and more, what China observers can notice is that Religions in China are being co-opted by the government in the implementation of its "Harmonious Society" (he-xie shehui) policy.

In this issue of CCQ, you will read about President Hu Jintao visiting the dying Bishop Fu Tieshan of Beijing, about "Chinese Going Crazy for Confucius", and about the award granted by Beijing to Amity Foundation, a "Christian NGO"...

In the same line, the People's Daily just reported about the third annual Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Interfaith Dialogue concluded in Nanjing. The two-day dialogue co-hosted by China and Italy served as a platform for religious, political leaders and academics to address their diversity and commonality of faith and deliberate on further tapping the potential of interfaith talks in enhancing mutual understanding.

Ye Xiaowen, Minister of China's State Administration for Religious Affairs said at the closing ceremony: "It has been proved by history that faith is an objective reality, it can neither be imposed nor deprived. China adheres to the policy of freedom of religious belief, and acknowledges the active role religion plays in building a harmonious society".

No mention of the "opium of the people"...

## **USCCB Welcomes New Executive Director**



The **Rev. Michel Marcil, S.J.** assumed the leadership of the *US Catholic China Bureau* on June 1, 2007. *Fr. Michel*, as he prefers to be known, comes to us with uncommon qualifications and credentials, and a commitment grounded in a "*lifelong love affair*" with China. A Université de Montréal graduate, he holds a Masters in Philosophy with his dissertation "*Are there Ethics in Karl Marx?*" and later earned a Masters in Pastoral Theology.

Fr. Michel went to Taiwan in 1966 where he first studied Chinese language at Fujen University, then worked as Director at the *Cardinal Tien Cultural and Educational Center* where he also directed the *Taiwan Aborigine Service Program*. After studies in Theology he was ordained priest and worked in a Team Parish Project for two years.

Back in Montréal in 1978 as Deng Xiaoping was leading China into the "Reform and Open Door" policy, Fr. Michel was soon involved in the first regular contacts with Catholics in China and annual friendly visits to churches in China. Beginning in 1981 he served as the founding Director of *Amitié-Chine*, the 'Québec Catholic China Bureau', as co-founder of the bilingual *Canadian Catholic Roundtable on China* in Ottawa, and as co-Chair of the ecumenical *Canada-China Program* in Toronto.

In 1998 the Jesuit China Provincial Superior assigned Fr. Michel to work in Los Angeles, California, as Director of *Inter-Friendship House Association*, a Service Center for visiting Chinese scholars at UCLA and USC as well as Chaplain for different Chinese Catholic Groups in California such as the *Christian Service Community* and the Chinese *Marriage Encounter*.

In 2003 Fr. Michel was assigned to the *Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History* at the University of San Francisco where he was Research Fellow and Program Coordinator while ministering to the different Mandarin-speaking Chinese Catholic communities of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Fr. Michel also comes to us with a "life-long friendship" with Sr. Janet Carroll, MM. They first met as missionaries in Taiwan in the mid-sixties. They met again in the early eighties, when they both served as Directors of their respective "China-Bureaus". In 1998, at the invitation of Sr. Janet, Fr. Michel joined the USCCB Board of Directors. He now succeeds Deacon Charles Douglas Lovejoy as Executive Director. Fr. Michel comes into the same office as Sr. Janet, [who continues as our Senior Associate], joining this exciting transition to the future of the China Bureau.

## **Church News**

## Fu Tieshan, "tragic" figure of the Chinese Catholic Church Dies

Bishop Michael FU Tieshan of Beijing died on April 20<sup>th</sup> in Beijing Hospital, the medical centre for China's elite. Before his death, he received a visit from *President Hu Jintao*. Born in December of 1931, in the Qing Yuan district (Hebei), he entered the Minor Seminary at St. Savior [North] Church in Beijing diocese and was ordained in the 1950s.



During the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), almost every bishop and priest was thrown into prison or sent to forced labor, including even those who had cooperated with the CCPA. FU was known to have spent some years as a farm laborer where he often told visitors he *learned valuable lessons for his priestly and pastoral life.* 

In 1978, beginning with DENG Xiaoping's Reform and Openness Policy, religion once again reappeared in China. In 1979 Fr. Michael FU was ordained a bishop among the first after the Cultural Revolution to accept episcopal election without prior approval of the Holy See. FU Tieshan has been described at the most tragic figure of the Chinese Catholic Church: shunned by the faithful of Beijing diocese for having continuously taken sides against the Pope, the Vatican and the interests of China's Catholics. Notwithstanding, FU's career was on a trajectory of success from a pragmatic viewpoint. Rewarded and praised by the authorities, he was promoted up the government and the CCPA's bureaucratic ladders, subsequently becoming Vice-President of the People's National Assembly and later a member of the Executive Commission. He also served as a Vice-president and Secretary General of the Conference of Chinese Catholic Bishops. following the death of Bishop ZONG Haide, he became President of the CCPA.

Regrettably, in recent years, his penchant for entangling religion with politics was characterized by a rather servile acquiescence to the regime's aims. In 1989, a few days after the Tiananmen massacre, FU was the only religious figure to defend on state television, DENG Xiao Ping's order to use tanks to clear students out of the Square.

On October 1st, 2000, in compliance with the CCPA's stance, FU denounced the Vatican for "having dared" to canonize 120 Chinese and foreign missionary martyrs, labeled as instruments of colonialism; and defining as "intolerable" the ceremony at Saint Peter's in Rome presided over by Pope John Paul II. In 2001, John Paul II sent a message to the Chinese people and authorities on the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Matteo Ricci's arrival in Beijing. The document asked "not for privileges", but for "freedom" for the Church to contribute "to the good of the great Chinese people." The Pope also asked forgiveness for any misunderstandings or negative signals of the past. Sadly, Fu Tieshan, together with the CCPA, dismissed this letter as "insufficient."

As the faithful increasingly abandoned the functions at which he appeared, Fu became more and more identified with elements in the CCPA bent on creating an independent Church, more beholden to self-serving ideological and economic interests. In recent years, illness gradually caused his withdrawal from public life.

With his death a unique chapter of the Church in China comes to an end. While commending his soul to God's mercy, we can also pray that with his passing, a new chapter may open under renewed episcopal leadership in the Beijing Diocese.

[citations from UCAN & other sources]

## Hankou Catholics Bid Farewell to Bishop Bernardine DONG

Bishop Bernardine Dong Guangqing of Hankou Diocese in central HuBei Province died of lung cancer on May 12. Born on April 1, 1917, Bishop Dong entered the Franciscan Order in 1934. In April 1958, following the expulsion of all the foreign missionary bishops in China, DONG and Rev. YUAN Wenhua, having requested, but been refused permission to assume episcopal leadership for the China Church, became the first two Chinese priests to accept election as bishops without prior approval of the Holy See. They served as bishops of Hankou and Wuchang, respectively until 1984, when

Pope John Paul II recognized Bishop DONG as the legitimate bishop of Hankou Diocese, which also includes Hanyang and Wuchang. Bishop Dong established a Major Seminary in Wuchang to train priests for Hubei and five other provinces in central and southern China. In 1988 he was elected to the Chinese Peoples' Political Consultative Conference.

Anthony Lam Sui-ki, of the Holy Spirit Study Center in Hong Kong observed that Bishop Dong's death marks the end of an era when certain priests were forced by the political environment to acquiesce in the practice of "self selection" in the China Church. Despite cooperating with the government, DONG faced political persecution during the Cultural Revolution (1966-76), consigned to a reform-though-labor farm for 10 years.

The death of Bishop Dong came three weeks after that of *Bishop Michael Fu Tieshan* in Beijing. Among the 51 such illicitly selected bishops ordained between 1958 and 1963, only two: *Thomas QIAN Yurong of XuZhou diocese in JiangSu* and *Anthony TU Shihua* of Hanyang in HuBei, are still living.

## Study in the Holy Land

Thirteen priests took part in a 4 week Scripture Study Program in the Israel organized by the Catholic Biblical Federation in Germany. The first program of its kind for Chinese seminary teachers, it included visits to biblical sites in Jerusalem and in Palestine and other areas. One priest, who teaches at Hebei/Shijiazhuang Seminary, said that before the trip Scripture was something abstract for him, but that this visit had made the subject fresh and new. Another priest said that he now understands the importance of interpreting Scripture in light of archeology, culture, geography, and the history of the Holy Land. The group also met with the Patriarchs of Armenian and Greek Orthodox Churches, and visited Jewish synagogues. Asia Focus 3/07

The USCCB's 11<sup>th</sup> Religious Study Tour was in China 1-19 March 2007. Ten articles based on encounters during the tour appeared on the Catholic News Service Website at: <a href="http://www.catholicnews.com/data/china/china.htm">http://www.catholicnews.com/data/china/china.htm</a>.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Religious Study Tour by USCCB will be offered in Spring 2009.

## **Oblates in China**

**The Oblate China Education Service**, under the umbrella of CARITAS/*Hong Kong* supports students in remote areas with educational allowances and funding for basic projects, when local people provide the labor. Recently, 21 schools were visited in 9 days in Yunnan Province, near the *golden triangle* of Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam. Traveling over mountainous roads for 4-5 hours a day – the group visited schools and homes to check out school applications for assistance and evaluate existing ones. Some schools have up to a thousand students packed dozens to a room in poor conditions.

Most students are boarders as the schools are so remote they cannot travel home each evening. These visits help the principals and teachers see that the Oblates follow up on things and will check into how the funding is used. The most rewarding part of the trips was meeting the students who received the educational allowances – a reminder of the good work the service does.

COD Newsletter 5/07

## **Cardinal Zen to Stay**



Hong Kong Cardinal Joseph Zen reports that Pope Benedict XVI has rejected his request to retire as the head of the city's Catholic Church so he could continue to oversee China affairs. Zen, who has already reached the retirement age for diocesan bishops at 75, said he has been informed by the Vatican that he

should stay on as Hong Kong bishop despite his repeated request to be relieved from duty.

"His Holiness Benedict XVI has decided that I carry on as the Bishop of Hong Kong and, in that position, do whatever I can to participate in the concerns for the Church in China in collaboration with the Holy See until it will be arranged otherwise," Zen said in a statement.

The Shanghai-born Zen has been involved in the move to improve diplomatic ties with Beijing. In January, the Vatican said it was setting up a permanent commission to handle China affairs and promised a Papal Pastoral Letter to China's Catholics.

AFP 3/07

## The Anticipated Papal Letter for Chinese Catholics

In recent years, many friends of the China Church have followed with interest the diplomatic 'pas de deux' of the Vatican with China. Every now and then, in search of a scoop, press agencies will report the answers to the questions asked by reporters to Chinese or to Vatican officials at a press conference.

Since January the press is aware that *Pope Benedict XVI* is preparing to issue a pastoral letter to Catholics in China. So there was no surprise when on June 19, reporters in Beijing asked the question at a regular press conference with China's foreign ministry spokesperson, *Mr. Qin Gang*.

Reporters recalled that, in the Italian Catholic Daily *Avvenire* on June 3, *Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone* announced that "the text of the letter has been definitively approved by the Holy Father, and now the process is under way for the various translations and for technical aspects of its publication." Reporters also knew that the Holy See is expected to provide a copy of the letter to the Chinese authorities before it becomes public.

In that context, the questions asked by the reporters in Beijing on June 19 seemed like an attempt on their part to find out whether Beijing had already received a copy of the Pope's letter. China is likely reluctant to let people construe that they have indeed received the letter, if they ever did. No doubt Beijing would prefer to react <u>after</u> the letter has become public, not react to an anticipated papal letter.

Mr. Qin Gang said nothing new. He just re-iterated what China's foreign ministry repeatedly states regarding normalization of China-Vatican relations: that the Vatican must not interfere in China's internal affairs in the name of religion, and that it must sever diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

Many observers of the Catholic Church in China anticipate that Pope Benedict XVI' Pastoral letter will be a very positive document, calling for greater efforts towards reconciliation and unity of the Catholic Church in China, as well as conciliatory goals to restore Vatican-China diplomatic relations.

To another question, Mr. Qin Gang refused to comment 'in advance' on the "Vietnam model" for the choice of the successor to the late *Msgr. Fu Tieshan* as Bishop of Beijing, proposed by *Cardinal Jean Baptiste Pham Minh Man* of Ho Chi Min City in a letter dated May 22 to two officials from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and State Administration for Religious Affairs.

Cardinal Man suggested that the *Bishops' Conference of the Catholic Church in China* (BCCCC) –not any other organization - call for a meeting of all mainland bishops: have them first reflect, pray, discuss, and understand more about each other, and then have them nominate candidates chosen from the bishops who are presently in office. Then the Holy See will submit its list, from among these candidates, to the Chinese government for its opinion. Once the Chinese Government gives its consent, the Holy See would appoint the new Beijing bishop.

[Citations from UCAN and other sources]

### Statistics for China's Catholic Church

Catholics Churches Dioceses	12,000,000 6,000 138
Bishops:	<b>6</b> 7
Registered	67
Unregistered	44
Priests:	1 070
Registered	1,870
Unregistered	1,100
[nearly 300 are elderly priests]	
Seminaries:	
National Institute of Theology & Philosoph	y <u>1</u>
Regional Major seminaries	5 5
Provincial seminaries	
Diocesan seminaries	10
Unregistered seminaries	Est. 10
Seminarians:	
Major	650
Minor	530
Unofficial: all levels	Est. 350
Religious Women:	
Registered	3,430
Unregistered	1,220
Sisters in Formation:	
Registered	320
Unregistered	230
Houses of Formation:	
Registered	40
Unregistered	20

Source: Tripod Vol. XXVII, No. 144, Spring 2007

## We proudly announce the 2007 graduates of the **Maryknoll Chinese Seminary Teachers and Formators Project**



Rev. Joseph Zhang Qiu Lin, Ph. D. Fr. Zhang graduated from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. with a Ph.D. in Liturgy. He will be teaching at Beijing National Seminary.



Rev. Paul Wang Li Min, D.Min. Fr. Wang graduated from Catholic Theological Union, Chicago with a D.Min. in Cross-Cultural Studies. He will serve in Anyang Diocese.



Rev. Raphael Gao Chao Peng S.T.D. Fr. Gao graduated from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. with an S.T.D in Moral Theology. He will be teaching at Xian Major Seminary.



Sr. Mary Jiao Yan Mei, D.Min. Sr. Jiao graduated from Catholic Theological Union, Chicago with a D.Min. in Cross-Cultural Studies. She will serve in Beijing Diocese.

### **US Peoples' Friendship Association (USCPFA) 21st National Convention**

\*\* October 5-7, 2007 - Sarasota, FL \*\* Convention Program

### "CHINA'S NEW DEAL"

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## **Arbitrary Detention of Zhouzhi Bishop**

On March 17, 2007, Bishop Joseph Wu Qinjing, of Zhouzhi Diocese in NW Shaanxi Province was forcibly taken away in a humiliating and arbitrary manner by the local police. Since then, the 38 year old Bishop has been kept in detention; and except for a brief message at Easter, has been deprived of communication with the priests and faithful of his diocese. The Shaanxi Province Bureau of Religious Affairs denies Bishop Wu's right to carry out his episcopal responsibilities due to the fact that he was not selected by the leaders of his diocese through the process required by religious policy in China. Bishop Wu [known as Martin] was duly Archbishop consecrated by Anthony Li Du'an of Xi'an who, as bishop of the ecclesiastical region in which the diocese of Zhouzhi is located, was simply fulfilling his ecclesial obligations. To organize the required "election" would have been difficult, due both to Bishop LI's imminent death from cancer and the fact that the priests of the diocese were divided into several factions, each with its own candidate. Shortly before his death, Bishop LI determined to choose a priest he judged most qualified to carry on the pastoral leadership of ZhouZhi diocese.

Ironically, by unlawfully detaining Bishop WU and intervening in such an odious way into the internal affairs of the Church, the local authorities may have unwittingly catalyzed entire diocese to unite for the good of the Church, in their strong demand for the release of their bishop.

Citations from Relais France-Chine 6/07

## **Social Issues**

## **Disparate Education Opportunities**

The year 1978 marked China's leap into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Deng Xiaoping introduced his open-door reforms, which inaugurated a quarter century of annual double-digit growth rates, resulting in the economic transformation of China. From 1978 to 2003, China's GDP grew more than 15 fold. In 1999, the World Bank re-classified China as a lower middle-income country. Notwithstanding the impressive results, the forces unleashed by those reforms: economic liberalization,



decentralization, and freer migration, have had unintended negative effects on development, income equity, social justice and gender equality. China now suffers from growing pains in disparities between rich and poor and urban

and rural areas, among regions and between extraordinary economic growth and difficult social development, and conflict between economic growth and environmental protection. Some of the key social issues can best be illustrated by the popular saying: "Education, healthcare and housing are the three new mountains weighing on the Chinese people" (comparing to the "three mountains of semi-feudalism, semi-colonialism and imperialism" that oppressed Chinese people when the People's Republic of China was founded in 1949).

Ironically, education is the issue most affected by China's booming economy. Educational expenditures for 2005 accounted for only 2.16% of GDP; despite the fact that **the Education Act stipulates that educational expenditure should be 4% of GDP**. Based on per capita educational expenditure, China ranked number 8 from the bottom, putting it on par with Chad - among nearly 200 member States and Associations of UNESCO.

The inequality between the rural and urban areas affects educational resource distribution, opportunity, and length of schooling. Especially in rural and hinterland areas, many children are locked into poverty – keeping them out of school for reasons as simple as lack of fees for books, accommodations or a ride to school. Educational expenditure in urban areas is three times higher than in rural areas.

[Zhang Liwei, Amity Foundation]

## Amity - A "Christian" NGO



On October 17, 2006 the United Nations "International Day for the Eradication of Poverty," the PRC government awarded the Amity Foundation for its outstanding work among the poor and social uplift programs for the under-privileged. Mr. Qiu Zhonghui, General Director of Amity, was among ten organizations and individuals who received this recognition at the Great Hall of the People, Beijing. The award certificate was given by Hui Liangyu, vice Premier of China, who congratulated Amity for its years of tireless efforts in serving the poor in society. Mr. Oiu said that the award was a real affirmation and encouragement for the work done by the Amity He expressed deep gratitude for the generation of church leaders who had the vision and determination to take the initiative to establish Amity as a non-governmental organization (NGO) twenty-one years ago. However, even though Amity has made remarkable accomplishments in the last two decades, there remains an enormous task ahead to bring about a "harmonious society" where there is justice for the poor. Though the Amity Foundation is an NGO, independent from the China Christian Council, it was founded by Christians who continue to provide its leadership. many, Amity is "an organization operated with love." It is in reality a strong Christian witness in the Chinese

Tian Feng, January 2007

### **Cultural Commitment**

Oblate Father George McLean, has organized a symposium with 20 scholars from different parts of China on *Public Administration as Public Service* to be held in late June in Aberdeen in Hong Kong. He writes: "*There is a deep moral* 

context.



requirement, namely, to assure among public administrators and in the structures that develop that the Chinese heritage of service to the people be maintained and developed. This is a matter not only of systems and techniques, but of deep cultural commitment, of values and of the corresponding virtues."

COD Newsletter 05/07

## **Chinese Going Crazy for Confucius**

Pop culture offerings in China these days run the gamut from Hollywood blockbusters to domestic versions of American Idol, but it is a book about the ancient sage Confucius that is causing all the buzz in the streets.

**Notes on Reading the Analects**, by *Beijing Normal University* Professor *YU Dan*, has become China's best-selling book in recent memory, defying critics who say it turns Confucian thought into self-help pulp for the modern age. Yu first shot to fame in October when she went on state TV to lecture on the Analects, a canon of Confucianism recording discussions between the ancient Chinese sage Confucius (551-479 BC) and his disciples. She wrote the book based on the TV transcripts. Her mass following tells of deep anxiety about morality and beliefs in a society that has gone through a disorienting transformation in recent decades, analysts said.

Yu's book appeals across generations, despite the vastly different experiences of growing up as Tian did, in the relatively prosperous and stable reform era of the 1980s and 90s, or as the older generation did, during the tumultuous reign of Mao Zedong. After the Communist Party took power in 1949, a series of radical political movements plunged the country into anarchy and near economic bankruptcy, culminating in the chaos of the Cultural Revolution. The turmoil is blamed by many for leading to mistrust between people and a breakdown of traditional values, including the Confucian ones which were denounced as "reactionary," as the Party tried to obliterate the country's past.

"A nation which used to value morality above everything else suddenly finds itself in a situation without a moral benchmark. That causes inextricable anxiety," said Zhu Dake, of Tongji University in Shanghai.

Writer *Zha Jianying* said Yu's books had found a frenetic audience in the ideological vacuum following the collapse of Communism as the "*state religion*" which has made China the world's "*largest soul market*" with its 1.3 billion population. "*So be it Buddhism, Christianity or Yu Dan's version of Confucius, people embrace them,*" said Zha, author of an acclaimed 2006 book of interviews with a dozen Chinese cultural figures. "There are so many wounded, helpless souls that are desperate to find something to believe in and to hold on to after these drastic changes."

Guo Shipeng, Reuters, 5/07

## **Amnesty International Report 2007**



Before China's election to the new UN Human Rights Council, it made a number of human rights-related pledges, including ratification of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* and active co-operation with the *UN on human rights*.

The A.I Report - summarily rejected by the PRC - included these concerns:

Rural migrant workers in China's cities faced wideranging discrimination. Despite official commitment to resolve the problem, millions of migrant workers were still owed back pay. The vast majority were excluded from urban health insurance schemes and could not afford private health care. Access to public education remained tenuous for millions of migrant children; onerous demands made it nearly impossible for migrant schools to be registered. An estimated 20 million migrant children were unable to live with their parents in the cities in part because of insecure schooling.

discrimination Violence and against women remained severe. The disadvantaged economic and social status of women and girls was evident in employment, health care and education. Women were laid off in larger numbers than men from failing state enterprises. Women accounted for 60 per cent of rural laborers and had fewer non-agricultural opportunities than men. The absence of gender-sensitive anti-HIV/AIDS policies contributed to a significant rise in female HIV/AIDS cases in 2006. Only 43 per cent of girls in rural areas completed education above lower middle school, compared with 61 per cent of boys. Despite strengthened laws and government efforts to combat human trafficking, it remained pervasive, with an estimated 90 per cent of cases being women and children trafficked for sexual exploitation.

Repression of spiritual and religious groups - The government continued to crack down on religious observance outside officially sanctioned channels. Thousands of members of underground protestant "house churches" and unofficial Catholic churches were detained, many of whom were ill-treated or tortured in detention. Members of the Falun Gong spiritual movement were detained and assigned to administrative detention for their beliefs, and continued to be at high risk of torture or ill-treatment. China Infodoc Service 5/25/07

## **Reading Notes**

Journey to the East: The Jesuit Mission to China, 1579-1724. Liam Matthew Brockey. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press 2007. A very interesting book on the Jesuit mission to China, written not on the Jesuits working in Beijing for the Chinese Emperor and their relations with the Mandarins, not on the protagonists of the Chinese Rites Controversy, but on the works of the Jesuits in the Provinces, their method of evangelization, their catechesis, their devotions, their way of presenting the Christian faith and their way of building Chinese Christian communities. The author has used extensively the Jesuit Archives in Macau. These resources in



Portuguese, untapped before, can be found in Lisbon. In his review [NYT Review 5/28/07], Jonathan Spence says that Brockey's book substantially changes the whole discussion.

- A **History of the Orthodox Church in China, Korea & Japan.** *Dr. Kevin Baker.* Edwin Metien Press, UK. The author has written a fascinating history of the Orthodox in China and its Eastern Church. By correcting popular historical preconceptions he has raised the level of understanding Christians have of Christianity in China and also in Korea and Japan. Baker also provides a history of the Jews in 15<sup>th</sup> century China.
- > **The Chinese Martyrs Red Book.** *Gerolamo Fazzini. Mondo e Missione and San Pedro Paolo Editors*, 2006. This collection of testimonies, which focuses on the first period of religious persecution under Mao, are of significant historical value. Of special interest are the accounts of Fathers Tan Tiande, Giocanni Huang and Li Chang. These life stories do not focus mainly on the suffering endured; they rather provide an understanding of the daily life of believers under persecution and highlight the spiritual tension, even though tempered with mercy and serenity, that pervades the purest faith.
- ➤ Mao's Last Revolution. Roderick MacFarquhar and Michael Schoenhais. The Belknap Press/Harvard University Press. \$35.00. This book assumes its readers are well grounded in modern Chinese history. Access to newly available documents and memoirs enable the authors to establish many facts and clear misconceptions regarding China's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. MacFarquhar and Schoenhais provide detailed accounts of the incidents, currents, cleansings and purges of the era. They also shed light on Mao's character and disputed intent in launching the Cultural Revolution. They leave it, however, to sociologists, political scientists and the Chinese people themselves to answer many significant still unanswered questions regarding "one of history's most horrific political cataclysms."
- ➤ One Billion Customers: Lessons from the Front Lines of Doing Business in China. James McGregor. Wall Street Journal Book by Free Press 2005. This extremely witty book presents case studies on doing business in China. Each chapter concludes with a practical section entitled "What This Means for You," and the "Little Red Book of Business" which consists of short pithy sayings that reveal the insights gained in each case study. McGregor ends his book by examining the cooperative Jesuit venture between China's premier university and a consortium of Catholic business schools in the USA. This book has applications not only to foreigners trying to do business in China but others working in different sectors of Chinese society, including faith-based organizations.

23<sup>rd</sup> National Catholic China Conference

3-5 October 2008 Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL

## **Continuing Cross Cultural Conversations**

Following on the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, the proposed theme will focus on youth: Christian and other religious believers, students, business people and so forth.

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